

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the subject application. Claims 56-57 and 61-67 are pending. Claims 66 and 67 have been amended to correct typographical errors. Claims 58-60 and 68-74 are cancelled.

35 U.S.C. §102 and 103

Claims 56, 61-62, and 67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,778,181 to Hidary et. al. (hereinafter, "Hidary"). Claims 63 and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Hidary. Claims 57, and 65-66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Hidary in view of United State Patent No. 5,629,733 to Youman et al (hereinafter "Youman"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

A Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 was filed on July 8, 1999 with the present application. On page three of the Office Action dated July 5, 2002, the Office acknowledged that "the declaration filed on 07/08/1999 under 37 CFR 1.131 is sufficient to overcome the Hidary et al. (US 5,778,181) reference." *Office Action dated July 5, 2002, page 3.* Therefore it is respectfully submitted that the Hidary reference has been overcome. Because Hidary is relied on in each of the rejections made by the Office, it is respectfully submitted that each of the rejections have also been overcome.


For these reasons, claims 56-57 and 61-67 are allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 56-57 and 61-67 under §§102 and 103 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Claims 56-57 and 61-67 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the subject application. If any issues remain that prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney before issuing a subsequent Action.

Respectfully Submitted,

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